

V. 15 Nov 83

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thinking, moreover, that they may also be the ones who... the building which housed the military governor's... the Israeli intelligence service at Tyre. This document... that the mastermind of the terrorist operations directed... the French and American servicemen may have the alias... He is supposed to be an Iranian who settled a year... 'abakk where he is said to command the city's 800... guards. The document mentions the inconspicuous visit... that the Syrian Sheikh al-Islam Zaidi, Iranian minister of defense... of the revolutionary guards [title as published], is said... to Damascus on 19 October, that is, 4 days before... attack in Beirut. The document notes that Mr. al-... was present before in Damascus on 16 APRIL, that... days before the attack against the U.S. Embassy in Beirut.

Without stating it explicitly, the text gives the impression that... the minister may have been the one who gave the green... to the terrorists after having assured himself that the... operation had been prepared perfectly.

Finally, it states that a member of the Lebanese Shi'ite clergy, Shaykh Raghib Harb, member of the Islamic Action Movement, known in the Shi'ite suburbs of Beirut to be the local agent of the revolutionary guards, also returned secretly to Ba'labakk in mid-October. For the authors of this report there is no longer any doubt that the terrorists have established their base in the Shi'ite quarter of south Beirut.

UAE's AL-KHALIJ Interviews Clergyman Fadlallah
GFI/HMS Ash-Sharqiah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 14 Nov 83
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[Interview with Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah] a Lebanese religious figure, by unidentified AL-KHALIJ correspondent in Beirut — date not given

[Text] [AL-KHALIJ] What do you have to say about the accusation that holds you responsible for the explosions at both the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and the headquarters of the French paratroopers?

[Fadlallah] I categorically reject this accusation — such rejection does not mean that we do not totally oppose the imperialist U.S. policy in Lebanon and the region, particularly the U.S. absolute support for Israel. Nevertheless, we do not resort to such methods in expressing our opposition, because we do not believe that such methods lead to decisive and positive results. Indeed, they may lead to negative results that serve the interests of imperialism at the expense of the interests of the homeland as a result of the emotional climate created by such a tragedy — a climate that makes it easier for imperialism to implement its plans. This happened with the two explosions — the United States benefited from them in invading Grenada and in exerting political pressure in Lebanon to further its interests. Moreover, basing an individual interpretation of Muslim canon law [Shari'ah], I have reservations on resorting to suicidal tactics in political action. We are seeking to activate the entire nation [umma] in confronting the plots of imperialism and Zionism through methods that turn the nation into a moving and active force in eliminating all

imperialism's economic and political interests that harm the interests of the people.

Therefore, I repeat my rejection of such accusations. They are too ridiculous to be denied. However, perhaps such accusations are used to create a psychological and political climate to exert pressure on the people in the southern suburb of Beirut. The information media tried to exploit this climate and waged a psychological war to suggest that there is a plan to invade the suburb. However, I believe that the issue now is bigger than that of invading the southern suburb. It is the issue of the political conditions in the country on which the United States sought to concentrate — particularly since the United States has no real evidence to accuse those in the southern suburb of being responsible for the incident. In this regard we would like to say that the U.S. media have distorted some of our statements on this issue.

[AL-KHALIJ] How do you assess the uprising in southern Lebanon and what is its scope?

[Fadlallah] I believe that the uprising in southern Lebanon is a transient situation that stems from such Israeli practices — arresting some young men here or there, or opening fire during "Ashura" in An-Nabatiyah, or other similar daily events. It is a profound situation whose elements lie deep within the citizen in southern Lebanon, who is experiencing spiritual, intellectual, political, and economic oppression as a result of the Israeli presence — a presence that can be summarized by the word "nightmare" that stifles in people every outlet to freedom. It is a deep feeling of persecution that one feels, a sense of a long-term plan to humiliate him and turn him into a neglected quantity that has no power to say what he does or does not want. Reaction to this oppression is expressed in various forms: in the operations carried out by the men of the Lebanese national resistance against Israel and in the actions of the struggling clergy men who feel a religious responsibility to pursue Israel on every level.

These actions were the daily diversified and constant action of the citizen in southern Lebanon. They clashed with many circumstantial, political, and security obstacles, sometimes overcoming them and at other times succumbing to them, until the suitable time comes to turn these actions into a broad popular movement that violently confronts Israel and exerts pressure on it. This has happened. It is not the first uprising. We remember the uprising that occurred following the arrest of Shaykh Raghib Harb [who was arrested by Israel and then released in April 1983]. We feel that there will be uprisings in the future, uprisings that are waiting for the right conditions in order to move toward the liberation of southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation. We believe that Israel, by its daily practices of humiliating the country and the people, is itself creating the psychological and popular climate for an uprising against it.

[AL-KHALIJ] What is your view on the call for civil disobedience?

[Fadlallah] I believe that civil disobedience did not now just begin — it began, and the call for it began, since the beginning of the Israeli occupation. Following that call the clergy declared that collaborating with Israel is forbidden. Many of the faithful implemented this call in their daily life, for the call represents a

judgment of holy canon law. The faithful constantly sought to ask about the individual application of civil disobedience in their food and drink and in their way of life in general. The issue is still alive.

Then there was the military resistance which has not ceased since the beginning of the occupation, a resistance that succeeded in achieving political as well as military victories by the political crises it created for the Israeli Government. I believe that the situation in southern Lebanon has gone beyond the daily details of civil disobedience, and it has become a duty to support this resistance on the military level, a resistance that makes the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon a problem for every Israeli household.

[AL-KHALIJ] How do you view the operations of the armed national movement?

[Fadlallah] I believe that it is necessary, during the present pressing situation, to draw up an integrated plan in which every group that is active in the field will carry out its part. In the aim, for many of those who work in the political field are accustomed to thinking more about how to provoke it than of how to concentrate on the situation at hand. No one group can monopolize the field. There must be some form of cooperation. Let all stands be directed against the Israeli occupation.

[AL-KHALIJ] There are political forces and groupings that are struggling against the Zionist occupation. How can these forces be brought together within the framework of a unified national front?

[Fadlallah] Perhaps the problem that faces such calls is that many of the parties that are politically active in Lebanon are subject to political or material ties with some regimes that are accustomed to compromising their causes in order to serve their own regional causes or to further their political advantages. This creates — and it has created — a state of confusion, fragmentation, and disarray in any national front.

I feel that protracted resistance requires that all the simple people who have not experienced political complications to come together and agree on the just cause, namely, the liberation of the land and the liberation of man by their own methods. Ultimately, they can put forth their stands to the responsible officials of parties and organizations. This solution may not be realistic with regard to current plans and methods, but it is realistic when viewed through the limited experience of the resistance in southern Lebanon.

[AL-KHALIJ] How can the uprising be supported so that its continuity can be maintained?

[Fadlallah] I believe that the slogan which should be raised by the uprising is the liberation of southern Lebanon from all forms of Israeli occupation. We believe that in order to turn this slogan into a realistic slogan we should rely on realistic methods that are commensurate with the capabilities and fortitude of the people — so that the people will have an opportunity to rest at some stage and renew their strength and energy to carry on in another only in abstract terms, because this will deprive those in the field of their cohesion and ability to continue. The role of realistic methods in the struggle [jihad] process is to participate in educating people to be able to carry on in the long-term course that can achieve its goals, even though such an achievement may take place after some time.

Islamic Group Leader Outlines Stance on North
NCI/H153 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
14 Nov 83

[Text] At a news conference held by its Secretary General 'Abdallah Babbitt, the Islamic Group [Al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah] in the north calls for lifting the siege of Tripoli, for a halt to the plans to divide and fragment Lebanon, and for a dialogue between the warring Palestinians. Babbitt outlined the Islamic Group's stances in several specific clauses, the most prominent of which are:

[Begin recording] 1. We condemn the present fighting. Its cessation is an urgent demand by all Muslims and by those supporting the Palestinian question in the world in their desire to have mercy on the patient and struggling people.

2. There should be an immediate meeting and dialogue within Palestinian legitimacy because it is the sound solution for bridging the split and it is the natural place for making the desired reforms. In that case, Tripoli is prepared to play host to conferences not to warring parties. They should urgently seek an understanding and emerge from circles of plotters and regimes' schemes before it is too late.

3. All types of blackmail should cease, be they a siege or the deployment of destructive weapons around Tripoli and in the south. They way must be paved for the fighters to be reassured and to return to their positions confronting the usurper enemy.

4. The presence of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasin 'Arafat] must be dealt with from the position of his status as the legitimate chairman of the PLO, which calls for respect and appreciation for him, and from the position of Islamic fraternity and the sublime interest of the people of Tripoli in accordance with the stance outlined by its leaders at the municipality conference. [end recording]

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